

PATENT

REMARKS

**Election/Restrictions**

The Office Action required a restriction to one of one of the following patentably distinct inventions:

Group I: golf bag with strap attachment (Claims 32-39), and

Group II: golf bag with pivotal rack (Claims 1-31).

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute the invention of **Group II**, but traverses, in part, the Examiner's restriction requirement.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 32-35, directed to a golf bag with a pivotal rack read on the invention of Group II, and thus, should be examined with claims 1-31. Specifically, Claims 32-35 are linking claims, and, as such, should be examined with the elected invention. See MPEP § 809. Thus the restriction requirement was defective at least for failure to identify claims 32-35 as linking claims, and include same in each of Group I and Group II. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement, and, thus, examine pending claims 1-35.

The Office Action further required an election between the following:

Set I: bag structure

Group 1: the bag shown in Figs. 1-2B,

Group 2: the bag shown in Fig. 3-3B,

Group 3: the bag shown in Fig. 6,

PATENT

Group 4: the bag shown in Fig. 7,

Set II: the rack structure

Group a: the rack shown in Fig. 1,

Group b: the rack shown in Fig. 4.

Applicant hereby elects **Group 1** of **Set I** and **Group a** of **Set II** but traverses, in part, Examiner's further restriction requirement.

Applicant respectfully submits that the restriction requirement is defective at least because the bag shown in Figs. 1-2B is the same bag as shown in Figs. 3-3B. Applicant respectfully submits that Figs. 1-2B illustrate a side view of a golf bag according to a preferred embodiment of the invention, and that Figs. 3-3B illustrate a front view of the same preferred embodiment of the invention of Figs. 1-2B, as supported by the face of the Figs. themselves, as well as by the brief description of the drawings. Thus, to the extent that Figs. 1-3B illustrate different views of the same embodiment, restriction between the bag as shown in Figs. 1-2B and in Figs. 3-3B is inappropriate, not to mention impossible. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the Examiner withdraw the requirement for election between Group 1 and Group 2, each of Set I. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-35 read on the elected embodiment, shown in Figs. 1-3B, and, therefore, respectfully requests examination of pending claims 1-35.

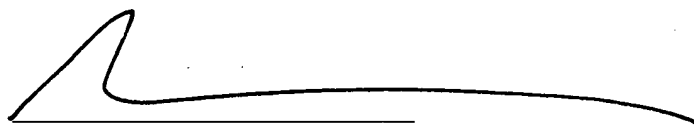
Applicant expressly reserves all rights with respect to any unelected groups, species, and/or sub-species, including the right to file divisional applications for same.

PATENT

CONCLUSION

If Examiner has any questions regarding this document, Applicant asks that Examiner contact the undersigned immediately by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a long horizontal stroke that curves slightly upwards at the end.

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